

Welcome to Stanton Reformed Church!
We're so glad you've joined us for worship today!

If you're visiting, we would like to extend a special welcome to you. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask an usher - they're the folks who gave you this bulletin!

Restrooms - From the back of the sanctuary, head left, pass the coat closet and go through the double doors, they're straight ahead of you.

Nursery - We provide nursery care and our loving adults would enjoy meeting your littlest ones. To get to the nursery, head left from the back of the sanctuary, pass the coat closet and it is on your right. Feel free to stay with your little one if you'd like. But we also want you to enjoy worship so the nursery staff is happy to take your cell phone and can text you with updates. We want you to feel comfortable!

Children - About 15 minutes into the worship service, children are invited forward for a special message just for them. You're welcome to join your child up front if you prefer.

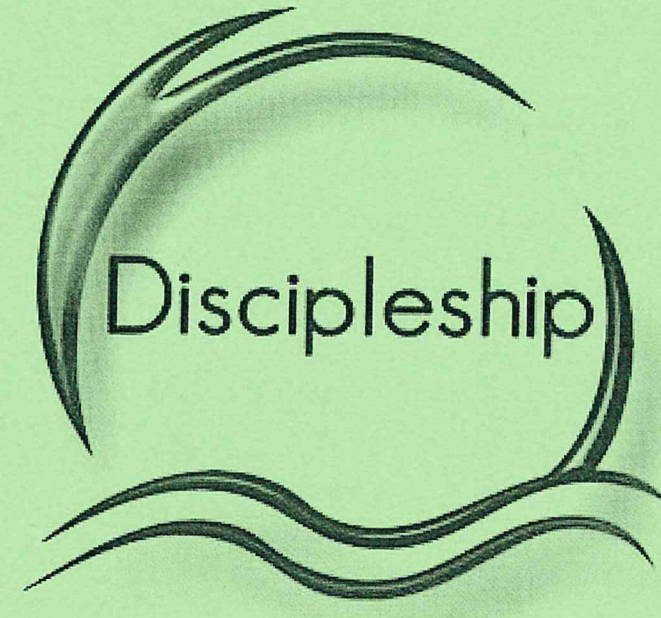
Sunday School - After the children's sermon, we have classes for children from preschool through high school. Younger children meet weekly, the classrooms are in our lower level; the stairs are immediately to your right when you leave the sanctuary. Middle school students meet the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, and high school students meet the 3rd Sunday of each month. There are loving adults in the foyer directing children to the right class. If you have questions, again don't hesitate to ask an usher. You can pick up your child after worship in their classroom.

Fellowship Time After Worship - After worship, we gather as a community for coffee, tea and snacks. If you're able, please join us.

Want to know more? There are cards in the back of the pews for you to provide your name and contact information if you would like more information about our community of faith. Again, welcome! We're so glad you're here!

Stanton Reformed Church
1 Stanton Mountain Road, PO Box 114, Stanton, NJ 08885
stantonchurch@gmail.com 908-236-2381

Rev. Beth Scibienski, Interim Pastor
Sara Haviland, Consistory Vice President
Carole Falar, Office Administrator
Beryl Gandolfo, Treasurer
Donna Morris, Financial Secretary
Megan Petrushun, Music Director
Philip Stevenson, Organist



Stanton Reformed Church
Founded 1833
A Congregation of the
Reformed Church in America
Sunday, February 9, 2020
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Prayers of Joy and Thanksgiving:

- Jillian and Brandon LeBaron are having a girl.
- Joy for Kathleen and Nick Zemlachenko's daughter's upcoming marriage.

Birthday Blessings:

Feb 11 - Paul Sauerland

Feb 18 - Lauren Huelsebusch

Feb 18 - Edward Zalewski

Feb 19 - Delia Jackson

Consistory Members - *Our Church is governed by a board of Elders and Deacons, together they make up our "Consistory." The Consistory oversees the worship and work of the church. If you have questions or comments, one of these folks will be happy to serve you.*

Diane Clapp, *Personnel and Finance & Stewardship Committees*

Scott Clarke, *Learning Center and Personnel committee*

Michele D'Amico, *All Are Welcome committee*

Sara Haviland Jackson, *VP of Consistory and Communications Committee*

Lauren Huelsebusch, *Worship committee*

Melody Landon Simerson, *Congregational Nurture Committee*

JP Magron, *member at large*

Erik Petrushun, *Nominating Committee*

Ed Scheuermann, *Interim Liaison Buildings and Grounds*

Tanya Tuccillo, *Mission Committee*

Bud Tunison, *Finance & Stewardship Committee*

Michele White, *Christian Education Committee*

Prayers and Birthdays - If you would like to have a prayer request in the bulletin, please contact Pastor Beth, or Carole at the church office. If you would like to send cards or notes to anyone on our prayer list, please contact the church office for an address.

Please remember in your prayers:

- Jay Kitchener is having a hard time dealing with complications of leukemia.
- JP Magron is grateful for visits from his families and requested prayers for comfort for his godmother who recently lost her husband.
- Donna Harding - prayers for friend Mike who passed away.
- Beryl Gandolfo - prayers for friend Susie who is in her third year of treatment for non-hodgkin's lymphoma.
- Carol Hrubesh - prayers for friend Johnny who is in the hospital after a brain bleed.
- Mary Schwenkler - prayers for nephew Morgan who struggles with mental illness.
- Adele Wittenberg - prayers for her friend Lew whose sister passed away recently.
- Prayers for Alfred Dentale - may he know he is loved.
- Megan Petrushun's aunt, Luci Houx, is in the hospital with an infection.
- Melody Landon's friend, Rob Kalesse, passed away last week with his loving wife beside him. Please keep his wife, Cristina, and his family in your prayers.
- Kathleen Zemlachenko's nephew is battling leukemia.
- Nick Zemlachenko's nephew is struggling with addiction.
- Michele D'Amico's mother continues to have difficulties with dialysis.
- Prayers for Joey Drelich, the Hunterdon Central freshman who passed away, his loving family and friends. May all find peace, and know that God loves them.
- Prayers for all youth, and for wisdom to help us to care for them.
- Joe Herb's sister was recently diagnosed with cancer.
- Charlie Scammell requested prayers for Sue Scammell Carpenter, who is fighting lymphoma.
- Lauren Huelsebusch's brother, Jeff Shreffin, passed away after a head injury. Prayers for his loving wife, Eileen, their children and family.
- Janet and Doug, who were both hospitalized with the flu.
- David Lockart, was a Choral Director here in the 60s, passed away from pancreatic cancer on January 30, 2020 at age 64. Prayers for peace and comfort for his loving wife, Linda, and his family.
- Michele White's friend's mother, Anne Tomasini, recovering from a stroke.
- The young girl from Vorhees who just passed away. Prayers for mental illness and suffering.
- Prayers for Josephine, who lost her husband of 74 years.
- Three Bridges Reformed Church and United Reformed Church - this week's Classis churches we hold in prayer.

We Assemble in God's Name

* invites you to stand with us, in body or in spirit, as you are able.

Bold indicates parts read by the congregation.

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude *What A Friend We Have In Jesus* Converse, arr. Schrader

Preparation for Worship

It is the 5th Sunday of "Epiphany" - a season we carve out between Christmas and Lent that focuses on ways God provides light and guidance to us (just as the Magi followed a star to guide them to the Christ child.)

Much of Jesus' message to his followers was that they are to be light in the world; they are to offer the insight and wisdom that guides the world to truth. Where does the world need light today? Where is there a need for wisdom? How are we at Stanton being called to be light in our world?

Choral Introit *Will You Come and Follow Me* The Iona Community
*Will you come and follow me, if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?*

Call to Worship

God is the light of our life.

May God's light shine on us as we gather on this Sabbath day.

God's light warms our hearts with God's loving presence.

Might our worship radiate light and love to others.

Let us worship God.

*Hymn of Praise #90 *Christ Is the World's Light* CHRISTE SANCTORUM

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

You call us to be the light of the world, O God,
but we doubt that we are able.

**You ask us to share your light with those in need,
but we love the warmth and comfort of your light –
we want to keep it to ourselves – why give it away?**

At other times, we keep you at such distance
that we sink into shadows of our own making,
so dense that we cannot even see a glimmer of hope.

We need you. We ask for your forgiveness.

*Hold silence for personal prayer
or follow your breath as a way of being present.*

Come to us now.

**Remind us that Christ's gift of grace
is all we need to do your good works
and all we need to be your light in the world. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Pardon and Summary of the Law

Friends, hear the good news of the gospel:

There is nothing that can separate you from the love of God.

Nothing.

**God's river of love flows deep and wide,
and is always and forever washing us clean.**

Therefore, let us be kind and compassionate to one another.

Let us forgive each other, just as God has forgiven us.

Let us follow God's example.

As God's beloved, let us walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us.

May we know the love and peace of Christ this day.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

*Gloria Patri (#807)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.**

Choral Anthem

How Lovely

Joseph Martin

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord God Almighty.

How perfect are Your courts of praise, how beautiful Your ways.

How lovely is Your holy light, the promise of eternal life.

How glorious Your gift of grace, how marvelous Your name.

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord.

My wand'ring spirit longs for You, my heart and flesh cry out.

Refresh my soul, my song renew, Lord, reach beyond my doubt.

I open my empty heart, come fill me, Lord, I pray.

Come and let the healing start, restore me, Lord, today.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Second Cup with Pastor Beth

February's Second Sunday, Second Cup with Pastor Beth will focus on the question she asked during her sermon on January 26, "Are you willing to be 25% uncomfortable so that someone else can be comfortable?" Get a 2nd cup of coffee this morning and head to the conference room at 11:30 a.m. for a 30-45 minute discussion.

Kids' Choir

The kids' choir will sing in church on Sunday February 23rd.

Rehearsals immediately following Church in the music room downstairs, today and February 16th. If your child would like to sing, please attend two of the three rehearsals. Please email Megan for more information: mpetrushun@aol.com

February Mission of the Month - Meals on Wheels, Hunterdon County

The Meals on Wheels in Hunterdon mission is to assist the homebound elderly and/or disabled residents of Hunterdon County, NJ maintain their independence by enhancing their nutritional health thereby avoiding unwanted institutionalization. Volunteer drivers deliver individually packaged nutritionally balanced meals to the participants' homes along specified routes around the noon hour Mondays through Fridays. In addition to bringing meals to the homebound, the drivers provide an assurance check each day.

Through the Lens of the Wilderness...

Ash Wednesday service - February 26 at 7:30

Church of the Holy Spirit,
3 Haytown Road in Lebanon.

Lenten Wednesdays - Beginning Wednesday, March 4, various churches in the area will host soup and discussion led by a rotation of the clergy in our area. **We will be hosting March 11! Look for more details by next week.**

Lenten Sundays - we'll be looking at various characters in the book of John "through the lens of Wilderness."

Join us as we explore the wilderness together.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

- Leading us in worship today:
 - Preaching: Pastor Beth Scibienski
 - Liturgist: Sara Haviland
 - Organist: Philip Stevenson
 - Music Director: Megan Petrushun
 - Soloist: Dick Billings
- Thank you to Kellee and Charlie Scammell for ushering today.
- Thank you to Camille Kille for hosting Fellowship today.
- The flowers on our altar are given in the glory of God by the Kille family.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEERS

<u>Acolytes</u>	Feb 16	Christian Borea & Camille
	Feb 23	Please sign up!
<u>Fellowship Hour</u>	Feb 16	Borea-Cerciello Family
	Feb 23	Please sign up!
<u>Flowers</u>	Feb 16	Borea-Cerciello Family
	Feb 23	Please sign up!
<u>Ushers</u>	Feb 16	Peggy Bryers & Carol Hrubesh
	Feb 23	Please sign up!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, Feb 9	Middle School Sunday School	10:20 AM
	Second Cup with Pastor Beth	11:30 AM
Monday, Feb 10	Communications Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
	Finance Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Tuesday, Feb 11	Prayer Shawl	2:00 PM
Wednesday, Feb 12	Bible Reading Group	10:00 AM
	Christian Education Committee Meeting	5:45 PM
	Bible Reading Group	7:00 PM
Friday, Feb 14	Happy Valentine's Day	
Sunday, Feb 16	High School Sunday School	10:20 AM

Proclamation of the Word

Children's Moment

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons: 1 Corinthians 2:1-10
 Page 156, regular print
 Page 202, large print

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 5:13-20

Page 4, regular print

Page 5, large print

This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Mind of Christ

Our Response to God's Word and Spirit

*Hymn of Response

We Will Follow
(sing verse 2 and then see below)

Somlandela (We Will Follow)

Som - lan - de - la, som - lan - del' u - Je - sus.
We will fol - low, we will fol - low Je - sus.

Som - lan - de - la, yon - ke in - da - wo.
We will fol - low, we will fol - low him.

Som - lan - de - la, som - lan - del' u - Je - sus.
We will fol - low, we will fol - low Je - sus.

La - pho e - ya - kho - na som - lan - de - la.
Wher ev - er he leads us we will fol - low.

WORDS: Trad. Zulu
MUSIC: Trad. Zulu, arr. Dean McIntyre

SOMMLANDELA
10.9.10.10

Vs3 - *Through the valleys, we will follow Jesus... We will follow Jesus where he leads.*

Vs 4 - *To the mountains, we will follow Jesus... We will follow Jesus where he leads.*

Vs 5 - *In our calling, we will follow Jesus... We will follow Jesus where he leads.*

Our Gifts of Thanksgiving
Invitation to Giving

In this time of giving, we answer God's invitation to follow.

Some of us come with pockets full of money and with the will to share our treasure;

Some come with pockets empty but with the will to share our lives in service. However we come today, let us give with grateful hearts.

The ushers may come forward to receive today's offering.

Offertory

How Can I Keep From Singing

*Doxology (#809 in unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication

God of every good gift, we stand before you,
bathed in your brilliance and warmed by your love,
so grateful for the blessings you have generously given us.

Receive our tithes and offerings - and our lives as well.

May they bring light to the darkened places of our world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

What joys and concerns would we like to add to our list of prayers?

Let's pause in silence for those prayers that have not been mentioned but remain in our hearts and on our minds.

We seal these prayers with the prayer Jesus taught us,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn of Sending #539 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

HOUSTON

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction

Lord, Now Let Your Servant

QUIETUDE

Lord, now let your servant go his way in peace;

Your great love has brought me joy that will not cease

Postlude

Gigue in G Minor

Jean-Baptiste Loeillet